



JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP December 2009 Newsletter

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM & Friday mornings - 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

Office phone #724-352-2324 Fax #724-352-8850

Office CLOSED Thurs.+ Fri. Dec. 24 & 25 and Thurs.+ Fri. Dec. 31 + Jan. 1 for the holidays.

Public Business or Comment

At the regular meeting on December 14, 2009, the attorney for the 'Stop the Race Track' Coalition urged the Board of Supervisors to adopt a noise ordinance, stating that there is considerable public support for it. Bob Corbett submitted pictures of various 'off-road' vehicles and mentioned that most of them do not have 'stock' mufflers. He referred to prior discussions with the Planning Commission regarding 'modified mufflers' being a nuisance and regarding noise emitted from 'older vehicles' being addressed in the state decibel standards.

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee does not meet in Nov., Dec., and January. The next meeting is February 3, 2010.

Planning Commission

The Nov. 18th Planning Commission (P.C.) meeting was reported on by P.C. Chair, Evelyn Gross. There was no business on which to take any 'action', but comments and information were presented from both the proposed race track developer (Mr. Neupert) and the 'Stop the Race Track' coalition (Mr. Corbett.) Ms. Gross explained to them regarding the proposed race track development as well as a proposed ORV or noise ordinance that the P.C. is a group of volunteer citizens that depend upon the professionals hired by the Township for enforcing and interpreting the state and local laws; and noted that the P.C. will follow the recommendations of these professionals.

In regards to the Off-Road Vehicle Ordinance and/or 'noise' regulations, the P.C. wanted direction as to which to proceed with, and at the Dec. 14th meeting, Chairman Jones clarified that the Board of Supervisors does want the P.C. to look at a possible noise ordinance that is simple, easily enforced, and will hold up in court.

December 14, 2009 Unfinished Business

The Township engineer is preparing specifications for some handicapped accessibility upgrades at Laura J. Doerr Park and the Supervisors voted to authorize the County to 'bid out' the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-R) 'stimulus' project.

The Pool Association has proposed to pay down the current pool loan to \$2,333.44. This amount is to be added to the Pool Renovation Phase II cost of \$18,067.46 for a 'new loan' of \$20,400.90 to be paid over 60 months. The Supervisors authorize a 'note' to be signed by the Pool Association after the final 'pay down' is made.

The Pool Association is still looking for a replacement for Mike McCarren, the current 'volunteer' president. It was reported that they are considering combining the president position with the pool manager job, which currently pays \$10 per hour.

The Supervisors discussed some revisions to the Preliminary 2010 Budget before adopting Resolution #295 – the 2010 Budget with revisions, including personnel raises, and setting the 2010 real estate tax rate at 1 mill (no change from 2009.)

The newly elected tax collector, Ashley Foertsch, was denied use of the township facilities as requested for office space. Traditionally, the elected tax collectors have worked out of their homes and the ‘compensation’ does not include office space or supplies, etc.

December 14, 2009 New Business

The Supervisors adopted the Fee Resolution #296 to revise the ‘tax certification letter’ fee to \$15.00.

The Board reviewed a letter from the Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) regarding the 12” water transmission main to be constructed in the Saxonburg Rd. right-of-way. They state that although the project is primarily to support the need for a reliable water supply in Saxonburg, they will offer to supply water service to any resident in Jefferson Township along the proposed route that requests service. There is no obligation (it is not mandatory) for any resident to take water service and no fees will be assessed for the installation of the water main. If a resident does want water service, there will be a fee applied for the installation of the meter and the resident must install a copper service line from the meter to the point of use. The Board will contact PAWC to question what the ‘franchise service area’ is and how it affects the property owners.

Misc. Business December 14, 2009

Leo Rosenbauer and Kevin Miller spoke to the Board about continuing development of the Stoneybrook Plan, by bringing the sewer line in from Audrey Lane to Lots 3, 2, and 1 at the end of Stoneybrook. The water line will still need to be extended up the ‘unfinished’ Stoneybrook Dr. They were told that they will need an updated bond, etc. Mr. Rosenbauer agreed to contact the Township attorney about the matter.

Lois J. Rankin submitted her resignation as ‘elected auditor’ as of this date, 12/14/09. Her term would have ended 12/31/09. Judy Herman from Saxonburg Rd., who was contacted by Auditor Sue Hartzell, submitted a letter of interest in the position. Kathryn Foertsch, out-going tax collector, indicated that she would be interested in the position as well. The Board accepted Lois Rankin’s resignation as elected auditor, but tabled the decision to appoint a replacement.

Major expenditures between meetings and at the Dec. 14th meeting:

Clinton Township – balance on new wood chipper	\$ 9,000.00
County of Butler – DCNR grant share/SEBCO Pool Phase II	\$18,067.46
Pa State Assn. of Township Supervisors – dues; subscription	\$ 1,428.00

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

During the winter months, as per the Township Ordinances, **NO ONE** is to park on the cul-de-sacs so that they can easily be cleaned of snow. Please **DO NOT** push snow onto the roads when plowing your driveway. Should this cause an accident, you could be named in a claim or lawsuit. **In addition**, this is a reminder that the Township is **NOT** responsible for replacing or repairing mailboxes damaged during the plowing/salting process.

According to the Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) it **illegal** for **any business** to burn solid waste without a permit from DEP (724-656-3160 – *DEP Solid Waste Management Program*). There is a “burning ordinance” in Jefferson Township for residences! Please call the Township office for details. Recyclable items are **NOT** to be burned!!!

It is illegal for residents or other non-resident users of Laura J. Doerr Park to dump their personal household trash in the park dumpsters. This is considered "theft of services." The Township officials will continue to monitor the situation and will prosecute violators if necessary.

The Newsletter

The Newsletter is only available On-line OR via e-mailing OR can be picked up at the Township Office. Our Web Site is: www.jeffersonbutler.com If you want to have the newsletter e-mailed to you or if you have not received your e-copy, please contact the Township Secretary: jefftwbutlerpa.@zoominternet.net - 352-2324.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

***All meetings listed take place at the municipal building, 157 Great Belt Rd., Butler, PA 16002
Any changes are advertised and posted.***

Board of Supervisors - The re-organization meeting is Jan. 4, 2010 at 3:30 P.M. followed immediately by the regular meeting for January. This is the only Supervisors' meeting held on the 1st Monday, the rest of the year they meet on the 2nd Monday.

**James R. Jones, Chairman / James Chick, Vice-Chairman / Phillip Bachman, Supervisor
Supervisor Chick's term ends 12/31/2009. Lois J. Rankin is the newly elected Supervisor for 2010.**

Planning Commission - 4th Thursday at 7:30 P.M. (except for Nov.19 and Dec.17, 2009 due to holidays.)
Members: Evelyn Gross (Chair.), Al Maurhoff, Bill Montgomery, Cheryl Prybock, Harold Riemer, Leo Rosenbauer, Danielle Sedlak, Robert Wetzal, and Robert Williams.

Recreation Board - 1st Wed. at 8 P.M. Feb. to Oct. (no meetings Nov., Dec. & Jan.)
Members: Leo Rosenbauer (Chair.), Wayne Deaner, Viki Weleski, Mike McCarren (Pool), Andy Bozzo (Baseball), Loyal Fredley, Jr. (Softball), and Ken Stockert (Soccer.)

☞ Saxonburg Area Library

The drastic cuts in the State Budget to Library funding has forced the Saxonburg Library to cut hours by 20%. In addition, most employees pay and benefits were cut. Other programs provided by the State were also eliminated. Recent Fund Drive donations are down too. This forces the Library to cutback magazine & newspaper subscriptions. **Stop by the Library to make a donation or to buy a book for the Library from our Giving Tree. Please help us keep our doors open!**

⇒ Story hour is back at the Saxonburg Library, Saturday mornings at 11:00am. This is jointly sponsored by the Library & the Knoch High School National Honor Society. Parents & their children, 2 years old & up, will hear stories and have the opportunity to do a craft.

⇒ Volunteers are needed to assist with an AARP Tax preparation service that will start at the Saxonburg Library in February, 2010. All training and expenses are covered by AARP.

- Pam Stivason, Library Trustee